

Amendments to the Claims:

1 1-9. (Cancelled)

1 10. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim + 43 wherein said needle
2 apparatus further includes a biopsy needle guide through which said hollow core needle is
3 inserted, and said hollow core needle functions as said RF electrode.

1 11-14. (Cancelled)

1 15. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim + 43 wherein said substance
2 includes an image contrasting agent for use in said determining of the volume of body tissue
3 ~~penetrated,~~ penetrated.

1 16. (Cancelled)

1 17. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim + 43 wherein said substance
2 includes a component selected from the group consisting of tissue necrosis agents, thereby
3 causing selective tissue necrosis in said ~~target~~ volume of body tissue.

1 18-19. (Cancelled)

1 20. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 43 wherein each microsphere
2 includes a container holding therein a substance for providing image enhancement for use in
3 determining said volume when said imaging technique is ultrasound.

1 21. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim + 43 wherein said volume is in
2 a prostate, and wherein said method is for treating a condition selected from the group consisting

3 of ~~BPH~~ benign prostatic hyperplasia and prostate cancer, and wherein said inserting is
4 accomplished by a method selected from the group consisting of ~~Transrectal, Transurethral and~~
5 ~~Transperineal approach~~ transrectal, transurethral and transperineal approaches.

1 22-23. (Cancelled)

1 24. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1 ~~43~~ wherein said method is
2 applied for the treatment of a body part selected from group consisting of prostate, liver, uterus,
3 bladder, kidney, lung, and breast.

1 25. (Original) A method as recited in claim 24 wherein said inserting is accomplished
2 using an approach selected from the group consisting of percutaneous, laparoscopic, and
3 endoscopic.

1 26-29. (Cancelled)

1 30. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1 ~~43~~ wherein said guiding is
2 further performed using a device selected from the group consisting of biopsy apparatus,
3 laparoscope, endoscope, hysteroscope, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) ~~MRI~~, computed
4 tomography ~~CT scan~~ (CT scan), and ultrasound imaging apparatus.

1 31-32. (Cancelled)

1 33. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1 ~~43~~ wherein said inserting is
2 performed by at least one method selected from the group consisting of percutaneous, through an
3 incision, through a natural body opening, and a laparoscopic approach.

1 34-36. (Cancelled)

1 37. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 1 ~~43~~ wherein said substance
2 further includes a ~~chemo~~ chemotherapy agent selected from the group consisting of hypertonic

3 saline solution, acetic acid, ethanol and other tissue necrosing agents, and wherein said substance
4 further includes a binding agent.

1 38. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 43 wherein each said
2 microsphere further includes a gas.

1 39. (Original) A method as recited in claim 38 wherein said gas is selected from the
2 group consisting of air, helium, fluorocarbon, and carbon dioxide.

1 40. (Original) A method as recited in claim 37 wherein said binding agent is selected
2 from the group consisting of biomaterial, polymer, biodegradable polymer, a suspension agent, a
3 derivative of a protein, fat, collagen, and oil.

1 41. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim + 43 wherein said substance
2 includes a conductive component selected from the group consisting of conductive polymers,
3 conductive agents, conductive elements, carbon particles, and metallic suspensions.

1 42. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 43 wherein said
2 microspheres include a conductive gel within said container.

1 43. (Currently amended) A method for treating a localized portion of body tissue in a
2 body comprising:

3 a) inserting a needle apparatus ~~in a body,~~ into the body tissue, said apparatus
4 including at least one hollow core needle for delivering an electrically
5 conductive substance into said body tissue, said substance conveyed in a
6 ~~non-metallic, bio-absorbable~~ biodegradable microsphere ~~container,~~
7 containers, whereby the substance is limited to a localized portion of body
8 tissue;

- 9 b) guiding said needle apparatus to a desired volume of body tissue in need
10 of treatment, ~~and~~ said guiding including use of a non-invasive imaging
11 technique for viewing inside an area of body tissue;
12 c) applying said substance to said body tissue through said needle apparatus;
13 d) determining that said volume of said body tissue is penetrated by said
14 substance; and
15 e) applying ~~RF~~ radio frequency (RF) energy to said substance through an RF
16 electrode to ablate the volume of body tissue, wherein said substance
17 serves as an electrode extension conducting said RF energy throughout
18 said volume.